

Dear Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Planning and Development:

My name is Jill Alibrandi, and I am a Connecticut resident who is strongly urging you to support HB 5170 An Act Concerning the Tethering and Sheltering of Dogs.

As you are aware, Connecticut suffers from harsh winters and extremely hot summers. There are countless other States that have already implemented these protections for animals, and this legislation is long overdue in our State. Not only is this Bill straightforward, humane and fair, it also can be passed at very little expense to our State. This Bill seeks to protect dogs during extreme weather conditions *before* they show visible signs of suffering and distress when it's evident the weather poses a threat to the dog's welfare. It also gives Animal Control Officers who are on the front line, clear direction and the necessary tools to help before the situation becomes life-threatening.

It is important to note that this Bill passed the House overwhelmingly in 2018, and now we need to finish what was begun six years ago. Let's finally do the right thing by these suffering animals.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jill Alibrandi